

Proposed installation of optical fibre submarine cable from Lantau Island to Peng Chau gazetted

The Government has proposed to allow Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited to install an optical fibre submarine cable of approximately 1.5 kilometres in length and 60 millimetres in diameter from Nim Shue Wan of Lantau Island to Tai Lei of Peng Chau. The extent of the area of foreshore and seabed affected is described in a [notice](#) gazetted today (August 5).

The proposed submarine cable will extend fibre-based networks to the target villages on Peng Chau in order to support the high-speed broadband connection in the region. The proposed works are tentatively scheduled to commence in the fourth quarter of 2022 for completion by the first quarter of 2023.

The notice and its related plan are posted near the site. The plan is also available for inspection at:

- * Survey and Mapping Office of the Lands Department (23/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong) (where copies can be purchased on order);
- * Islands Home Affairs Enquiry Centre (Cheung Chau) of the Islands District Office (G/F, 22 San Hing Street, Cheung Chau);
- * Islands Home Affairs Enquiry Centre (Mui Wo) of the Islands District Office (G/F, Mui Wo Government Offices, 2 Ngan Kwong Wan Road, Mui Wo, Lantau Island);
- * Islands Home Affairs Enquiry Centre (Tung Chung) of the Islands District Office (1/F, Tung Chung Post Office Building, 6 Mei Tung Street, Tung Chung, Lantau Island); and
- * Lands Department's website (www.landsd.gov.hk) under Government Notices.

Any person who considers that he or she has an interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and seabed involved may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands, 20/F, North Point Government Offices, 333 Java Road, North Point, Hong Kong, within two months from the gazette date, i.e. on or before October 5. The notice of such an objection shall describe the interest, right or easement of the objector and the manner in which he or she will be allegedly affected.

EMSD announces latest sampling results for legionella at fresh water cooling towers

The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) today (August 5) announced that the department tested 107 water samples collected from cooling towers in 74 buildings in its routine inspections in July this year. Four samples were detected to have a total legionella count at or above the upper threshold, which is 1 000 colony-forming units per millilitre. The latest statistics are set out in Annex 1.

The cooling towers in which the four samples were collected are located at Man Yip Building, 81-89 On Ning Road, Yuen Long; Kin Fat Industrial Centre, 13 Kin Fat Street, Tuen Mun; Hongway Garden, 7 On Tai Street, Central and Western District; and Geranium House, Ma Tau Wai Estate, To Kwa Wan. The EMSD has issued nuisance notices under the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance to the owners of the cooling towers requiring appropriate disinfection work to be done. Disinfection of the cooling towers in these cases has already been completed by the owners. Details of the cases can be found in Annex 2.

The EMSD publishes the latest statistics of the above information on a half-monthly basis on its website (www.emsd.gov.hk/en/other_regulatory_services/cooling_towers/water_sampling/index.html).

The EMSD reminds the owners of fresh water cooling towers that they have the responsibility to design, operate and maintain cooling towers properly. They should arrange regular inspections, timely maintenance and periodic testing of the water quality in their cooling towers in accordance with the Code of Practice for Fresh Water Cooling Towers issued by the department to prevent the proliferation of legionella.

Cantonese opera stars to perform in “A Burst of Blooms at the Pear Garden” programme in celebration of HKSAR’s 25th anniversary

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), the Leisure and Cultural Services

Department (LCSD) will present Cantonese opera performances under the theme "A Burst of Blooms at the Pear Garden" in September. Over 40 veteran Cantonese opera stars and young artists will perform in a series of stunning performances to present traditional auspicious set pieces "Prime Minister of Six States" and "A Fairy Returns Her Son to the Mortal Father", the full-length comedy "The Wife and the Concubine" and several Cantonese opera excerpts, showcasing their talent as well as the spirit of passing on the Cantonese opera heritage to new generations. This programme is under the exclusive sponsorship of the Hong Kong Jockey Club (HKJC) as one of the many initiatives supported by the HKJC's approved donation of \$630 million to the Government of the HKSAR to mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, demonstrating that the HKJC is resolute in pursuing its purpose of acting continuously for the betterment of society, all in support of creating a stronger community together.

The programme will kick off with the traditional set piece "Prime Minister of Six States", during which the operatic skills of different performers will be on display. Six actresses performing "wenwusheng" (the male leading civil and military role) will act as the six marshals in this play to demonstrate their heroine spirit. Another traditional set piece, "A Fairy Returns Her Son to the Mortal Father", will be performed by the younger generation that will bring a lively atmosphere to the audience. In addition, this programme features 10 excerpts from Cantonese opera classics, including "The Reincarnation of the Red Plum", "The Legend of the White Snake" and "White Dragon Pass", as well as five excerpts from formulaic plays, namely "A Blood Oath Sworn in the Grotto", "An Oath to Break Ties Forever", "Reunion with His Wife at the West River", "A Deadly Mission at Gaoping Pass" and "Pan Jinlian Seducing Her Brother-in-law". Artists from different generations will then collaborate to deliver impressive performances. For the finale of the programme, the full-length comedy "The Wife and the Concubine", written by playwright Yip Shiu-tak, will be staged, drawing the show to a perfect ending with joyfulness.

This programme is also part of the "Cantonese Operas Across Time" series, with details as follows:

Time and date: 7.30pm on September 5 (Monday)

Venue: Theatre, Ko Shan Theatre

Tickets: \$140, \$220, \$300 and \$380

Traditional set piece "Prime Minister of Six States"

Cast: Wai Chun-fei, Ngai Ching-wan, Min-hin, To Wing-sum, Doris Kwan, Lau Yu-feng, Cheng Wing-mui, Janet Wong, Leung Fei-tung, Szeto Hoi-yee, Leung Wai-hong, Yuen Tak-cheong, Yuen Wai-Kit, Zhan Haofeng, Ng Kwok-wa, Wan Chi-hung, Kwok Kai-fai and Ng Lap-hei

Synopsis: In the Warring States period, Su Qin lobbies the six states to form an alliance against the powerful State of Qin. After successfully forming the alliance, leaders of the six states agree to appoint Su Qin as their joint prime minister.

Cantonese opera excerpts (four pieces):

"Lu'an Zhou"

Cast: Mo Huamin and Lam Tsz-ching

"The Obsessed Dream" from "Love Renewed in a Dream at the Tang Palace"

Cast: Wang Zhiliang and Lin Yingshi

"Death of Han Xin at the Weiyang Palace"

Cast: Vong Seng-pan and Wang Kit-ching

"Searching the Palace" from "The Tragedy of Princess Lechang"

Cast: Song Hongbo and Cheng Wing-mui

Time and date: 7.30pm on September 6 (Tuesday)

Venue: Theatre, Ko Shan Theatre

Tickets: \$140, \$220, \$300 and \$380

Cantonese opera excerpts (six pieces):

"Killing His Loyal Wife"

Cast: Ruan Dewen and Liang Yanfei

"On Broken Bridge" from "The Legend of the White Snake"

Cast: To Wing-sum, Wang Kit-ching and Leung Fei-tung

"Meeting at the Battlefield" from "White Dragon Pass"

Cast: Li Qiuyuan and Lin Xinling

"Battle with Ma Chao at Night"

Cast: Ng Lap-hei and Ng Kwok-wa

"The Farewell" from "The Sounds of Battle"

Cast: Lam Tin-yau and Cheng Nga-kei

"Saving Pei Yu" from "The Reincarnation of the Red Plum"

Cast: Leung Siu-ming and Lam Tsz-ching

Time and date: 2.30pm on September 11 (Sunday)

Venue: Auditorium, Tuen Mun Town Hall

Tickets: \$140, \$200, \$280 and \$360

Traditional set piece "A Fairy Returns Her Son to the Mortal Father"

Cast: Song Hongbo, Lam Tsz-ching, Chan Hung-chun, Chan Kei-ting, To Wing-sum, Doris Kwan, Ng Kwok-wa, Yuen Wai-kit, Leung Fei-tung, Sezto Hoi-yee, Leung Kwan-yin, Chan Yuk-hing, Lam Hiu-wai and Wong Suk-ching

Synopsis: The Seventh Fairy secretly descends to the mortal world to marry the destitute Dong Yong. The Imperial Emperor of Heaven then orders her to return to heaven, and husband and wife are separated. Dong later earns the honour of Top Scholar, while the Seventh Fairy gives birth to a son in heaven. The Seventh Fairy descends to the mortal world again with her six sisters to give Dong their son.

Excerpts from formulaic plays (five pieces):

"A Blood Oath Sworn in the Grotto"

Cast: Li Qiuyuan and Tang Mi-ling

"An Oath to Break Ties Forever"

Cast: Loong Koon-tin, Sun Kim-long, Wong Chiu-kwan and Chan Hung-chun

"Reunion with His Wife at the West River"

Cast: Leung Siu-ming and Cheng Wing-mui

"A Deadly Mission at Gaoping Pass"

Cast: Yuen Siu-fai and Liu Kwok-sum

"Pan Jinlian Seducing Her Brother-in-law"

Cast: Lee Lung and Wan Fai-yin

Time and date: 7.30pm on September 20 (Tuesday)

Venue: Auditorium, Tsuen Wan Town Hall

Tickets: \$140, \$200, \$280 and \$360

Cantonese opera "The Wife and the Concubine"

Cast: Loong Koon-tin, Wan Fai-yin, Tang Mi-ling, Liu Kwok-sum, Yuen Tak-cheong, To Wing-sum, Kwok Kai-fai, Lam Tsz-ching and Szeto Hoi-yee

Synopsis: The merchant Ye Youcheng marries a woman née Lan, and has also built a second home with his secret lover by the name of Lu. While he is enjoying his life between the two women, the Messengers from Hell take his life by mistake and send his soul to Hell. The two women are thus brought to meet, and discover that their husband has two-timed them. When the Judge in Hell rules that Ye can return to the mortal world, unexpected things then happen.

Each performance will run about three hours and 30 minutes, including an intermission of 15 minutes. Some of the repertoires will be performed in "guanhua" (the ancient official dialect of the Central Plains) with Chinese surtitles. Tickets are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7325 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/chinese_opera/programs_1322.html.

A pre-performance talk and a post-performance talk in Cantonese will be held. The pre-performance talk will be held at 7.30pm on September 4 (Sunday) at AC2, 4/F, Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Speakers include Leung Siu-ming, Sun Kim-long and Liu Kwok-sum. The post-performance talk will be held at 7.30pm on September 25 (Sunday) at New Wing Function room, Ko Shan Theatre. Speakers include Loong Koon-tin, Yuen Siu-fai and Tang Mi-ling. Admission is free. Telephone registration is required, please call 2268 7267 from 10am on August 29 (Monday). Limited seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Details can be found on the above website.

In order to comply with the requirements stipulated in the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F) and relevant requirements of administrative instructions, members of the public are required to scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" venue QR code with their mobile phones/other mobile devices before being allowed to enter the performing arts venues managed by the LCSd for necessary

contact tracing if a confirmed case is found. In accordance with the Prevention and Control of Disease (Vaccine Pass) Regulation (Cap. 599L) and relevant requirements of administrative instructions, all persons entering indoor venues under the management of the LCSD must comply with the requirement of the Vaccine Pass.

75th round of compulsory testing for staff members of RCHEs, RCHDs and nursing homes

The Government today (August 5) announced the details of the 75th round of compulsory testing for staff members of residential care homes for the elderly (RCHEs), residential care homes for persons with disabilities (RCHDs) and nursing homes.

In accordance with section 10(1) of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap. 599J), the Secretary for Health issued a compulsory testing notice yesterday (August 4), requiring persons who are employed by and will be on duty at RCHEs, RCHDs, nursing homes and day service units attached to the premises of residential care homes during the period from August 17 to August 23, 2022, or who will provide services to residents or users through hire-of-service contracts with residential care homes and the aforementioned units during that period (including full-time, part-time and relief staff), to undergo polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid tests for COVID-19 once during the period from August 10 to August 16, 2022, according to the requirements and procedure set out in the notice (the Specified Test).

The staff of institutions who had obtained a positive test result in a polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test or rapid antigen test for COVID-19 on or after July 11, 2022, are not required to undergo testing in accordance with the requirements of the notice provided that they can produce the relevant SMS (mobile phone text message) notification containing the positive result of the test, or the relevant SMS notification or isolation order issued after making a declaration on the Government's Declaration System for Individuals Tested Positive for COVID-19 Using Rapid Antigen Test.

The staff of institutions may choose to undergo the Specified Test with the following means:

(1) To undergo the Specified Test in any of the Community Testing Centres (see the list at www.communitytest.gov.hk/en), Temporary Testing Centres (if any) (see the list at www.swd.gov.hk/en/index/site_pubsvc/page_supportser/sub_ttc), or mobile

specimen collection stations (if any) (see the list at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html) in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the centre/station;

(2) To undergo the Specified Test and provide a sample in accordance with the instructions given by the staff of the laboratory arranged by the Government for the above RCHEs, RCHDs, nursing homes or day service units;

(3) To have a sample collected by a healthcare professional or trained personnel as arranged by institution operators at a laboratory listed on the "COVID-19 Thematic Website" (see the list at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories RTPCR.pdf); or

(4) To self-arrange testing provided by a laboratory listed on the "COVID-19 Thematic Website" at their own expense (see the list at www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories RTPCR.pdf).

The samples provided for the tests arranged by the Government for the above RCHEs, RCHDs, nursing homes or day service units must be nasal swabs or combined nasal and throat swabs, while those collected from other means must be combined nasal and throat swabs and must not be taken by the person to be tested.

Any person who fails to comply with the testing notice commits an offence and may be subject to a fixed penalty of \$10,000. He or she would also be issued with a compulsory testing order requiring him or her to undergo testing within a specified time frame. Failure to comply with the order is an offence and the offender would be liable to a fine at level 5 (\$50,000) and imprisonment for six months.

A spokesman for the Social Welfare Department (SWD) said that the SWD and the Department of Health would issue letters to institutions to inform them of the relevant arrangements and requirements. The spokesman reminded staff of the said institutions who will undergo free testing at community testing centres that they should make an advance booking via the community testing centre booking system (www.communitytest.gov.hk) as soon as possible. In addition, institution operators should remind their staff members to properly keep the SMS notifications of their test results or their test result reports.

Institution operators are required to keep records of their staff having received the Specified Test and the results within the time frame specified by the Government. They are also required to co-operate with Checking Officers (Compulsory Testing) of the SWD who are enforcing the Regulation at residential care homes.

The Government will continue to monitor the epidemic situation and make adjustments to the aforementioned testing policy after taking the overall anti-epidemic measures into account.

Proposed installation of optical fibre submarine cable from Lantau Island to Cheung Chau gazetted

The Government has proposed to allow Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited to install an optical fibre submarine cable of approximately 4.4 kilometres in length and 60 millimetres in diameter from Tai Long Wan of Lantau Island to Pak Tso Wan of Cheung Chau. The extent of the area of foreshore and seabed affected is described in a [notice](#) gazetted today (August 5).

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